

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are pending.

Claims 1, 2, 6 through 9, 14 through 17 and 20 are rejected.

Claims 3 through 5, 10 through 13, 18 and 19 are objected to.

Rejections of the Claims

Examiner has rejected claims 1, 6 through 9, 14 through 17 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by USPN 6,421,624 (Nakayama). Examiner has rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Nakayama in view of USPN 6,417,674 (Rowell). Applicant has amended claim 1. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as to the claims as amended and requests reconsideration.

Below, Applicant discusses subject matter in each of the independent claims 1, 9 and 16 that is not disclosed or suggested by the cited art. On the basis of this, Applicant believes all the claims are patentable over the cited art.

Discussion of Independent Claim 1

Claim 1 sets out a method for performing calibration for testing of a device under test. A first port of the device under test is connected to a port of a calibration module. This is not disclosed or suggested by the cited art.

Discussion of Calibration Module:

Examiner has suggested that element 120, shown in Figure 6 of Nakayama is a calibration module. This is incorrect.

Figure 6 of Nakayama shows a three-port network analyzer 100. See Nakayama at column 5, lines 20 through 22. In the set-up shown by Nakayama in Figure 6, each of three test ports 144, 146 and 148 of three-port network analyzer 100 is connected to a test port of device under test (DUT) 300. There are no ports of DUT 300 connected to a calibration module.

Receiver circuit 120 is not a calibration module, but is part of three-port network analyzer 100.

Connection to Calibration Module without Connection to Device Tester:

Claim 1 set out that the calibration module changes termination values at the port of the calibration module in response to commands from the device tester. The changing of the termination values is performed without physical disconnection of the port of the calibration module from the first port of the device under test and without connecting the first port of the device under test to the device tester. This is not disclosed or suggested by Nakayama.

In Nakayama, receiver circuit 120 is part of three-port network analyzer 100. Therefore, any time receiver 120 is connected to a port of a device under test 140, this means that three-port network analyzer 100 is connected to that port of that device under test 140. It would be impossible to connect a port of device under test 140 to receiver circuit 120 without connecting that port of

device under test 140 to three-port network analyzer 100, since receiver circuit 120 is part of three-port network analyzer 100.

Additionally, claim 1 indicates specifically that the changing of the termination values is performed without physical disconnection of the port of the calibration module from the first port of the device under test and without connecting the first port of the device under test to the device tester. As can be seen from Figure 6, all ports of DUT 140 are connected to three-port network analyzer 100. There is no discussion of testing being done on DUT 140 where one port is not connected to three-port network analyzer 100, but is instead connected to a calibration module.

Discussion of Independent Claim 9

Claim 9 sets out a device tester that tests a device under test, the device includes a communication port. The device tester communicates to a calibration module through the communication port, instructing the calibration module to change termination values at a port of the calibration module without physical disconnection of the port of the calibration module from a first port of the device under test. The instruction is given during testing of the device under test when a second port of the device under test is connected to the first port of the device tester, when a third port of the device under test is connected to the second port of the device tester, and when the device tester is obtaining calibration parameters for the device under test. This is not disclosed or suggested by the cited art

Discussion of Communication Port:

Examiner has suggested that the device tester set out in claim 9 is disclosed by network analyzer 10 shown in Figure 8 of Nakayama. Examiner has suggested that the test port 44 of test set 30 shown in Figure 8 is a communication port, as set out in claim 9. This is incorrect.

Essentially then, Examiner has asserted that test port 44 of test set 30 is a communication port of network analyzer. This is clearly not the case.

First, test port 44 is not a part (or a port) of network analyzer 10. Rather, test port 44 is part of test set 30. Since test port 44 is not a part of network analyzer 10, test port 44 is therefore clearly not a communication port of network analyzer 10.

Further, claim 9 sets out that the device tester communicates to a calibration module through the communication port. However, neither network analyzer nor test set 30 uses test port 44 to communicate with a calibration module. Rather, test port 44 is directly connected to DUT 40 and is used for testing and not communication.

Discussion of Independent Claim 16

Claim 16 sets out a device tester that tests a device under test, the device includes a communication port means for communicating to a calibration module in order to instruct the calibration module to change termination values at a port of the calibration module without physically disconnecting the port of

the calibration module from a first port of the device under test. This is not disclosed or suggested by the cited art.

• Discussion of Communication Port Means:

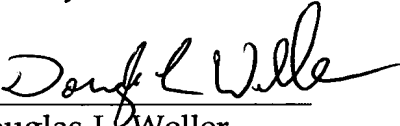
• Examiner has suggested that Nakayama at column 8, lines 16 through 49 sets out a communication port means. However, Nakayama at column 8, lines 16 through 49 does not set out a communication port means.

At column 8, lines 16 through 49, Nakayama discusses network analyzer 10 and test set 30 shown in Figure 8. Neither network analyzer 10 nor test set 30 include a communication port means for communicating to a calibration module. Nothing in column 8, lines 16 through 49 of Nakayama nor any other section in Nakayama disclose or suggest a calibration module, a communication port, or communication to a calibration module. Nothing in Nakayama discloses or suggest a calibration module is instructed to change termination values at a port of the calibration module without physically disconnecting the port of the calibration module from a first port of the device under test.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this Amendment has placed the present application in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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